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Nevada and Irrigation.

F. H. Newell, chief hydrographer of the Geological Survey, who is in charge of the irrigation work undertaken in Nevada, states that within twenty-five years Nevada will have a population of 500,000 people. Inasmuch as the State has at present less than 40,000 inhabitants, the expert on irrigation predicts wonderful development for the State.

Nevada is rich in resources, but handicapped by bad laws and poor management, which have retarded her development. When the State was admitted to the Union it was permitted to select its two million acres of school lands instead of being limited to particular sections under the general law. The lands selected contained the springs and water courses of the State, and these were virtually turned over to the great cattle companies. Settlers going into Nevada found rich land, but no available water for irrigation, although water was there if properly distributed, sufficient for all the State's needs. The result was that the settler was forced to move on, and Nevada, the richest in resources of the inter-mountain States, has made no perceptible advancement in twenty-five years.

Now, however, it is evident that a new era is to open up for the battle-born State. Mr. Newell bases his predictions upon the practicability of the system of irrigation for Nevada at present in course of construction, which completed will place thousands of acres of the most fertile land in the State under profitable cultivation.

It is remarkable that the apparently barren sagebrush plains of Nevada are in reality most productive, when the one thing necessary to make them fertile, water, is brought to them. Wherever the experiment has been tried the most satisfactory results have been obtained, and none who know the character of Nevada soils, and realizes the thoroughness of the system of irrigation which the government has undertaken, doubts the soundness of Mr. Newell's prediction.—Sac. Union.

Will Eucalyptus Thrive in Nevada?

In its native home the eucalyptus tree reaches a size corresponding with that of the redwood of California. It belongs to Tasmania, in the Australian group, where it attains a height of 300 feet and a circumference of 50 feet. The rapidity of its growth is exceptional; in ten years, from a mere twig, it reaches 60 feet in the air, with a girth of from 6 to 9 feet. The wood is exceedingly hard but easily worked and has no superior as a fuel. It grows remarkably dense, an acre of eucalyptus producing more wood than any other tree known. It has shown its adaptability to those parts of California where it has been planted, and has thrived with vigor. Many years ago, when the cost of transporting coal into the southern part of that State was quite expensive, the growing of eucalyptus for fuel purposes was a profitable undertaking.

Wood is a serious question in the economy of parts of Nevada

and with the passing of time must become more so. The query arises, could this forest product be successfully grown in the more favored sections of the State? Although indigenous to a warm climate it is possible that the tree possesses sufficient vigor to withstand the rigor of our short period of cold each year. If so, the warm Summer and late Fall in the valleys would be a great aid to its aid and stability. It is a matter worthy of thought, for, as before remarked, wood costs a great deal of money in Nevada, and time can but increase this unavoidable expense.—Courier.

Scrub Stock.

The scrub bovine is the first cousin to the cur dog, which no one wants and which everyone takes a kick at, says C. E. Howard in Rural Press. The longer you keep him the poorer you get. It will not be many years before the scrub of the bovine species will be regarded in the same light as the cur dog; and the quicker this takes place the better off the farmer and the country at large will be. He is the product many times of ignorance, sometimes of carelessness or accident, and often of environment. Many scrubs are produced by the effort of the farmers to combine the desirable qualities of two widely different breeds by crossing, and then, not finding themselves successful, make bad matters worse by putting in a dash of something else. This man is following a method akin to the one who invests his savings in a "get-rich-quick" scheme. There are no short cuts in successful breeding, and the man who starts out to produce, by crossing, something better than his neighbors or anyone else has, will find that he is a good deal in the same box as the beleaguered traveler hunting for the oasis which he sees just ahead of him but never reaches.

The area of the public domain is being reduced at an alarming rapidity, and unless Congress soon repeals the iniquitous land laws which have enabled land-grabbers and speculators to acquire immense tracts, it will not take many years until the words "public lands" are wiped off the map, and then the poor man's opportunity to secure a home on the land will be forever gone. There is one way, and only one, to stop the abuses to which our present land laws are subject, and that is to repeal the provisions which have made possible and encouraged the perversion of their original purpose. Tinkering with the laws by means of amendments will only lead to confusion and fail to accomplish the desired reform. Now that the Federal government has commenced the work of reclamation, it is doubly important that the arid lands should be preserved for the people who will populate the West, build new agricultural communities and towns, and add to the wealth of the nation.—Maxwell's Talisman.

Will the McCoy's Move, Too?

The Hatfields, famous in Kentucky and West Virginia for their feud with the McCoy's, have de-

serted their old battle-ground and located in the far West. About fifty strong they have bought land near Chehalis, Washington, where they will settle. It is nearly half a century since the feud began between these two families. Ever since then the trouble has been more or less of a terror in the mountain border land of Kentucky and West Virginia, scores of lives having been wiped out on each side. For some time there has been comparative peace. The present exodus is due to the influence of friends who have already colonized in the Northwest.

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